

CLAIMS

1. An electronic device that supports at least one language, comprising:
 - 5 a memory;
 - at least one language data package located within the memory having an image file that contains data on the at least one language;
 - a pack manager, wherein the pack manager is used for loading and unloading the at least one language pack into and out of memory; and
 - 10 wherein the at least one language data package can be loaded and accessed by the electronic device without having to perform a system re-boot.
2. An electronic device as defined in claim 1, wherein additional language data packages may be loaded into the electronic device without recompilation of the electronic device's software.
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3. An electronic device as defined in 1, wherein the at least one language data package comprises all components necessary for the electronic device to use the language supported by the language data package.
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4. An electronic device as defined in claim 3, wherein the at least one language data package further comprises character font sets to support the at least one language.

5. An electronic device as defined in claim 3, wherein the at least one language data package further comprises a rules database that includes navigational rules for the at least one language.
6. An electronic device as defined in claim 5, wherein the at least one language data package comprises key entry rules for text entry and any databases required for smart text entry.
7. An electronic device as defined in claim 3, wherein one of the components in the at least one language data package comprises culture specific information that further comprises character font sets.
8. An electronic device as defined in claim 7, wherein the culture specific information further comprises color schemes that are displayed by the electronic device.
9. An electronic device as defined in claim 1, wherein the electronic device comprises a radio communication device.
10. An electronic device as defined in claim 9, wherein the at least one language data package can be updated over-the-air.

11. An electronic device as defined in claim 9, wherein the at least one language data package is updated using a computer that is tethered to the electronic device.

12. A radio communication device that supports at least one language, comprising:

a memory;

5 a language data pack located within the memory, wherein the language data pack comprises an image file that contains data on the at least one language, the language data pack further comprising all components necessary for the radio communication device to use the language supported by the language data pack.

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13. A radio communication device as defined in claim 12, wherein the language data pack further comprises a rules database which contains rules for using the at least one language.

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14. A radio communication device as defined in claim 13, wherein the rules database comprises navigational rules for the at least one language.

15. A radio communication device as defined in claim 12, wherein the language data pack further comprises a smart text entry database.

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16. A radio communication device as defined in claim 12, wherein the updating of the language data pack does not require reloading of applications found in the radio communication device.

17. A method for providing language support for an electronic device having a
memory, comprising the steps of:
loading a language data pack in the memory, the language data pack
comprising an image file that contains data on a language; and
retrieving data from the language data pack whenever the electronic
device requires information related to the language.

18. A method as defined in claim 17, wherein the language data pack further
comprises all components necessary for the electronic device to use the
language.

19. A method as defined in claim 17, wherein the language data pack further
comprises a rules database that contains rules for using the language.

20. A method as defined in claim 17, wherein the language data pack further
comprises a smart text entry database.